

CHAPTER 5

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

INTRODUCTION

Reclamation's consultation and coordination effort at Navajo includes formal and informal processes from initial project planning over fifty years ago to today. Resource and recreation management within the reservoir area has evolved over time and will continue to evolve. Reclamation has used and will continue to use information from its own planning efforts plus those of other associated or adjacent management agencies. The issues, concerns, management objectives and management actions in the proposed action were derived from this ongoing process.

The planning process for the Navajo Reservoir RMP began in 1995 when Reclamation contracted with EDAW, Inc. to develop a proposed RMP and its associated NEPA document. EDAW's involvement with the RMP ended with preparation of a Preliminary Draft EA (PDEA) in 1999. Following review of the PDEA by Reclamation and select agencies, Reclamation discontinued the planning process for an indefinite period. In 2003, Reclamation re-initiated the RMP process, planning to utilize as much of EDAW's previous work as possible.

SCOPING

Scoping for the Navajo Reservoir Area RMP and the associated NEPA document has come from various sources over several years. Internal scoping by Reclamation and its managing partners is an ongoing process. EDAW, Inc. conducted initial public scoping in 1995. In 2003, Reclamation re-initiated the Navajo RMP planning process and requested additional scoping. Reclamation has also carried forward applicable issues and concerns identified in prior reservoir and adjacent planning efforts. The issues and concerns identified for this planning effort are listed in Appendix H.

IN-HOUSE COORDINATION

In-house coordination for the RMP began in the fall of 1995 when EDAW planners and Reclamation staff met in Durango and visited the reservoir. Initial issues, concerns, and potential management direction were identified and discussed. As planning progressed, the issues, concerns and potential management direction were revised through internal and external input. (USBR 1999)

Upon re-initiation of the process in 2003, Reclamation staff reviewed EDAW's documents and data, plus other documents that may affect resource management at Navajo. Reclamation developed a revised list of issues, concerns, and potential management direction, as well as a list of sideboards to better define the scope of the planning process.

CONSULTATION/COORDINATION WITH OTHER AGENCIES

Both EDAW and Reclamation have consulted with several Federal, State and local agencies in developing this EA and RMP. Those agencies include:

- US Fish and Wildlife Service, Grand Junction, CO and Albuquerque, NM

- Southern Ute Indian Tribe, Department of Natural Resources, Ignacio, CO
- Bureau of Land Management, Farmington Field Office, Farmington, NM
- Colorado Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Arboles and Clifton, CO
- Colorado Division of Wildlife, Durango, CO
- New Mexico State Parks Division, Navajo Dam and Santa Fe, NM.
- New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, Farmington, NM

These agencies have provided scoping comments, issues and concerns, resource and use data, and resource management recommendations.

EDAW consulted with these agencies from 1995 to 1999 through a combination of personal meetings, telephone conversations, correspondence, public meetings and ad hoc workgroup meetings. Several of the agencies, like the State Parks, the BLM, the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, were active in the ad hoc work group. (USBR 1999) Reclamation continues to consult and coordinate with these agencies.

CONSULTATION/COORDINATION WITH INDIAN TRIBES AND NATIONS

EDAW included the Southern Ute Indian Tribe, the Jicarilla Apache Nation, and the Navajo Nation in the initial planning effort. The Southern Utes were active in the ad hoc work group (USBR 1999).

Reclamation included the following tribes in the re-initiation of the RMP process: Southern Ute Indian Tribe, the Navajo Nation, the Jicarilla Apache Nation, and the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe. Responses were received from the Southern Utes and the Jicarilla Apaches. Reclamation representatives subsequently met with SUIT Department of Natural Resources representatives to further discuss issues and concerns, and possible coordination of resource management at and adjacent to the reservoir. Reclamation will continue to consult with these and other tribes regarding cultural resources and ITAs.

Fifteen tribes with ancestral and contemporary ties to the area were consulted regarding the Navajo Reservoir Operations EIS. Eleven tribes, the Hopi, Jicarilla Apache, Navajo, Jemez, Nambe, Pojoaque, San Ildefonso, Santa Clara, Taos, Laguna, and Southern Ute, expressed concerns and requested that they be included in further consultations. The remaining 4 tribes, Zuni, Tesuque, San Juan, and Picuris, either stated they have no concerns or did not respond despite a good faith effort to consult. (USBR, 2003b) All 15 tribes will be provided with a copy of this DEA.

Under NAGPRA, EO 13007, and NHPA, Reclamation consults with interested and concerned American Indian Tribes/Nations, as necessary, concerning cultural items, TCPs and sacred sites. Tribal representatives include elected officials, recognized traditional and religious leaders, Tribal historians, and cultural committees. A Draft Programmatic Agreement in consultation with the New Mexico and Colorado State Historic Preservation Officers will be prepared pursuant to the NHPA. These consultations are ongoing.

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Reclamation and EDAW initiated public involvement for the Navajo Reservoir RMP in September 1995 through public open houses. These meetings were advertised in local newspapers and newsletters sent to over 300 people. Three late afternoon and evening open houses were held in Durango (CO), Farmington (NM) and Arboles (CO) during September 1995. These meetings were used to present resource information and identify issues to be addressed in the planning process. (USBR 1999)

EDAW also used an ad hoc workgroup to provide feedback. This workgroup consisted of approximately 25 members, including representatives of agencies, general producers, local residents, concessionaires, and the general public. The group met six times and reviewed resource maps, identified issues and commented on and participated in the identification of alternatives. (USBR 1999)

Reclamation re-initiated the public involvement process for the RMP in March 2003 through public notices in local and regional newspapers and a mailing to about 250 entities. The mailings included an initial listing of sideboards, issues and concerns, and scope. People were asked to identify additional issues and concerns, and possible alternatives. Reclamation received 8 responses from individuals, agencies, and Indian tribes as a result of this mailing.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION SOURCES

As a part of this planning and environmental assessment effort, Reclamation has used input and information from several recent planning processes for or close to the reservoir area. These other planning processes include:

- Navajo Reservoir Operations EIS; 1999-2004 ongoing (USBR)
- Animas/La Plata Reclamation Project FSEIS; July 2000 (USBR)
- Navajo State Park (CO) Recreation Rehabilitation Program; 1994-2003 (Reclamation/CDPOR)
- Navajo State Park (CO) General Management Plan; 1987 (CDPOR)
- Navajo Lake State Park (NM) General Management Plan; 2003 (NMSPD)
- Southern Ute Natural Resource Management Plan; 2000; (SUIT)
- Farmington Field Office RMP/EIS; 2001-2003 (BLM)

These planning efforts included coordination and consultation with individuals, organizations and other agencies and were useful in developing our proposed RMP. While some of these planning efforts do not directly address the reservoir area, the issues and concerns identified helped planners understand the opinions and concerns of area residents, other agencies, resource users, and reservoir area visitors. Also, management actions developed or proposed by another agency may be suitable for implementation within the reservoir area.

LIST OF PREPARERS

Table 5-1 lists the Reclamation staff that was instrumental in the preparation of this document.

Table 5-1: List of Preparers, USBR			
Name	Title	Experience/Expertise	Contribution
Mike Andrews	Archaeologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MA- Anthropology/Archaeology 27 years professional archaeologist w/ USBR, BIA, and Northern Arizona University 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cultural Resources Paleontology ITAs
Mark Chiarito	Resource Management Specialist (Recreation)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bachelor of Landscape Architecture 24 years recreation and land management w/ USBR 2 years planning w/ City of Colton, CA 1 year landscape architect in private practice 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreation and Land Management Team Leader, 1995
Brad Dodd	Chief, Southern Facility Maintenance Group (Supervisory Geologist)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BS Geology; some graduate work 5 years- Chief, SFMG w/ USBR 20 years- geology, SOD, hydrology, environmental studies w/ USBR Registered Professional Geologist- WY 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Project Operations and Maintenance
Warren Hurley	Archaeologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BA Anthropology 14 years with USBR 11 years combined with USFS, NPS, Academia, and private contracting 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Archaeological, Historical, and Ethnographic resources Tribal and Government consultation.
Kirk Lashmett	Fish and Wildlife Biologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BS Biological Sciences/Fisheries 30 years fish and wildlife resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fish/Wildlife Resources T&E Species NEPA Coordination
Judy Martin	Realty Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assoc. Administrative Management and Realty 24 + years Federal service in administration, public relations, planning, realty, land use, and rights-of-way w/ FAA, USFS, and USBR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Realty Land Use Rights-of-Way
Steve McCall	Environmental Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> MS Fisheries/Wildlife Biology 30+ years environmental management and compliance w/ USBR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEPA Coordination
Ruth Rydiger	Information Technology Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> BA- Math 20+ years w/ USBR; systems administration, data management, GIS 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> GIS Maps

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Name	Title	Experience/Expertise	Contribution
Alan Schroeder	Natural Resource Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BS Forest Science ▪ 30+ years Federal land and resource management and planning w/ USFS, BLM, USFWS, and USBR. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Team Leader ▪ All resources ▪ NEPA Coordination
Clarice Seale	Resource Technician	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 25+ years federal service w/ NRCS and USBR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Land Status and Acquisition ▪ Existing Rights and Reservations
Terry Stroh	General Biologist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BS Wildlife and Fisheries Science ▪ 17 years Tribal, State, and Federal resource management w/ SUIIT, Pueblo Zuni, and USBR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ NEPA Coordination
Bill Walsh	Supervisory Resource Management Specialist	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ BS Geology ▪ 5 years land management w/ USBR ▪ 22 years geologist w/ USBR 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Minerals ▪ Geology ▪ Soils

RESPONSES TO COMMENTS RECEIVED ON DRAFT EA.

To be added later